

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1441
By Dunn

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Representative Bo Watson upon his meritorious service as a member of the General Assembly.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this Body should recognize those fellow legislators who have performed their duties with remarkable dexterity and unprecedented devotion and whose efforts to excel have brought substantial benefits to their respective communities and to this great State; and

WHEREAS, Representative Bo Watson's illustrious career in the House of Representatives will come to an end at the adjournment sine die of the 104th General Assembly, as he has announced his retirement from this august Body; and

WHEREAS, Representative Watson has for many years been a prominent and highly influential figure in the political, social, and civic lives of North Hamilton and Rhea Counties, and he has served his constituents in numerous capacities, always working diligently at his elected duties and expending the necessary effort to understand the opposing sides of complex issues; and

WHEREAS, the good people of House District 31 evinced their great faith in the political and governmental capabilities of Bo Watson by electing him as their representative to the House of Representatives; he has been a house member of the 104th General Assembly, and he has performed admirably in this position; and

WHEREAS, during his two-year term in the House of Representatives, Representative Bo Watson has been prominent as a dedicated and well-informed legislator who always votes his conscience; and

WHEREAS, Representative Bo Watson is a dynamic and aggressive participant in the legislative process and has earned the respect and admiration of his colleagues for the outstanding contributions he has made as a member of the House Government Operations

Committee; House Health and Human Resources Committee; and House Mental Health Subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, named Legislator of the Year for 2006 by the Southeast Tennessee Development District, Representative Watson ably served as Co-Chairman of the House Republican Caucus Bill Review; and

WHEREAS, a native Tennessean born on October 21, 1960, Bo Watson is the son of Foy and the late Doris Watson; he is a graduate of The Baylor School and received his undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga (UT-C) in 1983, prior to completing his Physical Therapy certification at the University of Tennessee at Memphis; and

WHEREAS, a licensed physical therapist for over twenty years, Representative Watson is Director of Therapy Services at Parkridge Medical Center and serves as a Clinical Instructor in Physical Therapy at UT-C and Chattanooga State Community College; and

WHEREAS, a gentleman who truly appreciates the responsibilities, as well as the privileges, of citizenship, Representative Bo Watson has served as a valuable member of many civic, professional, and governmental organizations, including serving as a member of the Wesley Foundation Board of Trustees and the Baylor School; he has also performed community service as a volunteer with Junior Achievement, Habitat for Humanity, and the American Heart Association; and

WHEREAS, Representative Watson is also a past Board member of the American Cancer Society Relay for Life, and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS, a deeply spiritual gentleman, Bo Watson is a longtime member of First Centenary United Methodist Church, where he currently serves as Sunday School teacher of the Hardin Class and has served faithfully in the past as Lay Leader and member of the Board of Trustees; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Mr. Watson is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Jill, and they are the proud parents of one son, Grey; and

WHEREAS, seeking election to the State Senate, Representative Watson's announcement of his retirement from the House of Representatives has greatly disappointed

and disconcerted his fellow lawmakers, and his considerable talents and energies will be sorely missed by the good people of House District 31; and

WHEREAS, this Body finds it appropriate to bid farewell to our friend and colleague, Representative Bo Watson; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Representative Bo Watson on his meritorious service to Tennessee as a member of the General Assembly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we commend him for his countless contributions and many good works in service of the citizens of House District 31.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we extend to Bo Watson our best wishes for much success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation to Rep. Watson as a token of our esteem.